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ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

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INDEPENDENT

September 28, 1999

Beth Nolan  
Counsel to the President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Nolan:

Upon President Clinton's return from his trip to New Zealand for the annual meeting of the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), I was dismayed to read the following report from the Wall Street Journal on September 24, 1999:

**TOGETHER AGAIN:** James Riady, the Indonesian businessman central to Donorgate, used an economic summit in New Zealand last week to chat with Clinton. The White House won't talk about it, but Indonesians say Riady didn't discuss anything "sensitive" with the president.

If the report is true, I am concerned that the President would meet with an individual who has continued to evade questioning by the Congress and the Department of Justice about his pivotal role in the campaign finance scandal that came to light just prior to the President's re-election in 1996. As you are aware, Mr. Riady was recently named by John Huang as the architect of a massive scheme of illegal conduit political contributions in the United States. I cannot understand what purpose would be served by the President meeting with Mr. Riady except to urge him to cooperate with Federal investigators.

From his home in Indonesia, Mr. Riady appears to have orchestrated a complex scheme to launder over \$4 million in illegal political contributions to Clinton/Gore '92, the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, state Democratic parties, individual candidates, and non-profit groups in 1992 and 1996.

John Huang, Mr. Riady's political point man in the U.S., kept in frequent contact with his former boss and his companies during his tenure at the Department of Commerce. Mr. Riady's Oval Office meeting with President Clinton on September 13,

1995, led to Mr. Huang's hiring by the DNC where he promptly raised over \$3 million in illegal political contributions.

After a week of meetings in the White House, James Riady paid former Justice Department official Webster Hubbell \$100,000 at a time when Mr. Hubbell's cooperation in the Whitewater scandal was being sought by the Independent Counsel. Mr. Hubbell has refused to reveal why Mr. Riady paid him this money.

Finally, and most importantly, U.S. intelligence agencies report that one of Mr. Riady's chief business partners, China Resources, is an intelligence-gathering agency of the communist Chinese Government.

From the above list of activities, I find it to be inconceivable that the President of the United States would meet with James Riady for any reason. Mr. Riady has thumbed his nose at the laws of the United States and Mr. Clinton appears to have rewarded him. Doubtless, this meeting with the President will be used to personal advantage in Indonesia and China by Mr. Riady. Therefore, I would like to request that the White House provide the following information and documents in regard to this matter:

- A. Did President Clinton meet James Riady in New Zealand?
- B. Identify all individuals present during any contacts between President Clinton and James Riady or his associates while the President was in New Zealand.
- C. Describe the substance of all contacts between President Clinton and James Riady in connection with the President's travel to New Zealand.
- D. Describe the substance of all contacts between White House officials and James Riady or his associates in connection with the President's travel to New Zealand.
- E. When did the White House first learn that James Riady would be in New Zealand during President Clinton's trip for the APEC meeting?
  - 1. How did the White House learn that James Riady would be in New Zealand during President Clinton's travel there?
  - 2. Identify all individuals involved in the request that President Clinton meet with James Riady during the President's trip to New Zealand.
  - 4. Was the fact that James Riady would be in New Zealand during President Clinton's trip conveyed to the President? If so, when was this information conveyed to the President? Who conveyed

this information to the President? Please describe the substance of each of these communications.

5. Identify any White House officials who expressed concern over President Clinton meeting with James Riady. Please describe the substance of all such communications.
- H. Provide all documents relating to James Riady, his companies, his employees, or his associates in connection with the President's recent trip to New Zealand for the APEC meeting, including all documents relating to any meetings between President Clinton and James Riady.
- I. Provide all recordings, either video or audio, of any contacts between President Clinton and James Riady, his associates, or his employees relating to the President's trip to New Zealand for the APEC meeting.

It is my sincere hope that if indeed President Clinton met with James Riady during his trip, that the President used the prestige of his office and his long-term friendship with Mr. Riady to convince Mr. Riady to return to the United States and answer all of the questions posed by Congress and the Justice Department so the American public can finally learn the entire truth about Mr. Riady's role in tampering with our presidential elections. I am concerned, however, that the President would socialize with an individual who has mocked the laws of this country.

I would appreciate an answer to the questions I have asked and the requested documents by Tuesday, October 5, 1999. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Dan Burton  
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Henry Waxman

P.S.

*If a Subpoena is required - please  
let me know as soon as possible !!!*